

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 56

By Yager

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Doris Lovett  
of Oneida.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Ms. Doris Lovett; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Lovett was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for her fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, born in Oneida, Tennessee, on February 22, 1928, she was the daughter of the late James Rile and Lassie Trammell Lovett; and

WHEREAS, Doris Lovett served with acumen and alacrity as the long time personal secretary of Senator Howard H. Baker in which position she earned the respect of her peers, superiors, and a grateful public alike for the exemplary quality of her work; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Lovett actually began her life's work as a secretary when she was hired by officials of the Oneida & Western Railroad at the young age of seventeen in 1945; after six years in that position, she began her illustrious career in government service and politics, as the secretary of Congressman Howard H. Baker, Sr., and this exceptional lady held that position until his death in 1964; and

WHEREAS, following the elder Congressman Baker's death, his widow Irene B. Baker assumed his seat, and Doris served as her secretary for the remainder of the late Congressman Baker's term. Also in 1964, Ms. Lovett had a brief tenure with Congressman John J. Duncan Sr., and later went to work for U.S. Senator Everett M. Dirksen of Illinois from 1965 to 1966; and

WHEREAS, Senator Dirksen's son-in-law, Howard H. Baker was elected U.S. Senator from Tennessee in 1966 and Lovett became his personal secretary remaining loyal to Howard H. Baker through his terms in the Senate and also during his tenure as President Ronald

Reagan's Chief of Staff. Ms. Doris Lovett retired in 1996 after a remarkable fifty-one years of meritorious service; and

WHEREAS, Lovett was a charter member of the Scott County Historical Society and served many years as an officer and director of that organization; and

WHEREAS, this remarkable woman also was an active and enthusiastic family historian, an avocation which culminated in her being chosen to lay the wreath beneath a monument to her ancestor, Revolutionary War Captain Dennis Trammell, in a ceremony held at the Houk Trammell Cemetery in Winfield in June, 2009; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Doris Lovett was an active and devout member of the Pentecost Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, Doris Lovett was also deeply devoted to her family, and she always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Lovett was preceded in death by her parents, James Rile and Lassie Trammell Lovett; her brother, James Monroe Lovett, Sr., and wife Cloreda; special nephew, James Monroe Lovett, Jr.; and her brother-in-law, Harry Gordon Carson; and

WHEREAS, Doris Lovett is survived by her sister, Clora Carson; nephews, Kermit L. Carson and wife Joyce, David G. Carson and wife Teddy Jo; niece Betty Sue Posey and husband James, and Anna Lovett; great nephews and nieces, Payne Lovett and wife Sheila, James Lovett and wife Reecia, Kim Cross and husband Cameron, James E. Gray, Pamela and Eric Cope, Amber Carson, Carrie Binkley and husband Alan, and Robin Carson; she also leaves behind many great-great nephews and nieces, relatives, and friends; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Doris Lovett leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Doris Lovett reflecting fondly upon her

impeccable character and her stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Ms. Lovett

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.